



OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Administrative Requirements Manual

EFFECTIVE: 7/1/02

AUTHORIZATION:

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A/R TITLE: Temporary Waiver of EMT Certification Requirements for Ambulance Services: EMTs Certified in Another State

SUPERSEDES: N/A

PURPOSE:

To define the requirements and conditions under which the Department, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111C, §§9 and 22 and 105 CMR 170.275(C), may grant an ambulance service a temporary waiver of the emergency medical technician (EMT) certification requirements, to enable the service to hire and put to work in Massachusetts a specifically named individual certified as an EMT in another state or territory of the United States.

EXPLANATION:

The Department has exercised its authority under M.G.L. c. 111C, §§9 and 22 and 105 CMR 170.275(C) to address the shortage of employable EMTs certified by the Department, in order to meet the public health and safety need for sufficient levels of ambulance service throughout the Commonwealth.

This administrative requirement applies only to waivers of 105 CMR 170.285 for hiring and enabling to work in Massachusetts a specifically named out-of-state certified EMT. Such an EMT may only work at a level of care equal to the level of his or her out-of-state certification. During the period of the ambulance service's waiver, the out-of-state certified EMT must meet all the requirements necessary to become a Massachusetts certified EMT, pursuant to 105 CMR 170.880.

The Department has determined that the certification by another state and the employment by an ambulance service licensed by the Department, together with the terms of this administrative requirement, will ensure the out-of-state certified EMT is competent and will receive sufficient oversight and evaluation to provide, for a temporary period, a necessary service in a manner that protects the public health.

[See A/R 5-201 for requirements for an ambulance service to receive a temporary waiver of EMT-Basic certification requirements for a specifically named person who has completed the Department-approved EMT training course or Department-approved equivalent training at the EMT-Basic level, but is **not** certified as an EMT in any state.]

REQUIREMENTS:

- (1) The ambulance service seeking such a waiver shall submit an application. The service shall attest to the fact that a) it is holding a position for a specifically named out-of-state certified EMT for work in Massachusetts at the certification level of his or her out-of-state certification, and b) it accepts full responsibility for orienting and overseeing/ monitoring/evaluating his work for the duration of the waiver period. This application shall be accompanied by:
 - a copy of the EMT's out-of-state certification card;
 - a copy of the EMT's current training card in cardiopulmonary resuscitation at the level appropriate to the EMT's level of certification; and
 - a copy of the EMT's valid motor vehicle operator's license.



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- (2) The Department shall verify that the out-of-state certified EMT the ambulance service is seeking to put to work:
 - Is currently certified in another state; and
 - Such certification is in good standing (no significant compliance issues on the record and no pending significant compliance issues).
- (3) The out-of-state certified EMT shall be required to submit the following to OEMS:
 - a complete and accurate application for certification as an EMT in Massachusetts; and
 - payment of the certification fee.
- (4) The out-of-state certified EMT whose employing Massachusetts ambulance service receives a waiver shall be required to take and to pass the Massachusetts written examination. The EMT shall have three attempts at passing the exam within no more than one year. The EMT shall have 6 months within which to complete the first exam attempt, and no more than one year from the date OEMS accepts a complete application to complete all three attempts and pass the exam.
- (5) The ambulance service's waiver shall be valid for no longer than one year; however, it shall expire automatically prior to one year, upon occurrence of any of the following:
 - after 6 months, if out-of-state certified EMT candidate has not started the Massachusetts certification exam process (taken the first attempt at the exam); **or**
 - the EMT fails all three attempts to pass the Massachusetts written certification exam, thereby, has exhausted the opportunity to pass; **or**
 - the EMT's certification as an EMT in the other state expires for any reason.
- (6) Waivers will not be issued when the applicant ambulance service has a history of compliance problems or has outstanding compliance issues.
- (7) Temporary waivers of EMT certification are not renewable or transferable.